

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 101, are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 48-67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is purportedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 49 stands rejected under U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,119,124 ("the Broder patent"). Since this claim has been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 50-54, 58-60, 61-63 and 64-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,850,490 ("the Johnson patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claim 48 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Johnson patent, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,381,601 ("the Fujiwara patent"). Since this claim has been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 48, 55-57 and 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,360,215 ("the Judd patent"), in view of the Fujiwara patent. Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Claims 50-54, 58-60, 61-63 and 64-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,873,982 ("the Bates patent"), in view of the Johnson patent. Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Basically, claims 46 and

47 were allowed and all other claims were canceled.

Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance and the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Any arguments made in this amendment pertain **only** to the specific aspects of the invention **claimed**. Any claim amendments or cancellations, and any arguments, are made **without prejudice to, or disclaimer of**, the applicant's right to seek patent protection of any unclaimed (e.g., narrower, broader, different) subject matter, such as by way of a continuation or divisional patent application for example.

Respectfully submitted,

November 19, 2007

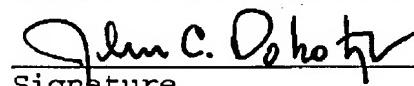
  
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